

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 98-149-C - ORDER NO. 98-320
MAY 1, 1998

IN RE:	Application of Vanguard Cellular Systems of)	ORDER APPROVING
	South Carolina, Inc. for Approval to Cease)	EXIT AND TRANSFER
	Cellular Radio Telephone Service in South)	
	Carolina through the Transfer to Triton PCS,)	
	Inc. of Certain Assets to Provide Such)	
	Cellular Service.)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of Vanguard Cellular Systems of South Carolina, Inc. (Vanguard) for approval to cease cellular radio telephone service in South Carolina through the transfer to Triton PCS, Inc. (Triton) of certain assets to provide such cellular service. These assets are currently used by Vanguard to provide its service in the South Carolina 5-Georgetown Rural Service Area (SC-5 Market) as designated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The parties have requested the FCC approval to assign to Triton the FCC licenses necessary to operate the SC-5 Market system. The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-11-140 (1976)

The Commission's Executive Director, by letter, instructed Vanguard to publish a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the affected areas, one time. The Notice instructed the public as to how to participate in the proceeding. Vanguard filed an

affidavit showing compliance with the instructions of the Executive Director. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received.

Accordingly, Vanguard filed verified testimony, and moved that the “due hearing” required by Section 58-11-140 (1976) be held at the Commission’s regular Tuesday agenda session. This request was granted.

Vanguard states that the public interest will be served by approving that Company’s exit from providing cellular services in the SC-5 market through the proposed transfer because Triton’s managers include a number of individuals with substantial experience in the operation of FCC-licensed radio facilities. Vanguard states that Triton will bring an experienced and successful management team as well as substantial financial support to the operation of the SC-5 Market System and the service of its subscribers.


We have examined the entire record of this case, including the Application and verified testimony and conclude that the granting of the Application as filed is appropriate and in the public interest, and should be approved, because of the reasoning as stated above. We therefore approve Vanguard’s exit from provision of cellular radio telephone services as reflected in the Application and testimony through transfer to Triton of the assets that Vanguard currently uses in the SC-5 Market. Vanguard shall notify this Commission upon completion of the transaction.

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This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSON:


Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director

(SEAL)